

a1
cont
and roads are repaired. There is a trend among some communities to require cable-laying contractors to repave the streets rather than just patch the cut. All these factors increase the cost per unit distance of laying the cable in cities.--

Please delete paragraph [0032] and replace with the following:

a2
-- [0032] After installing the system, the service pipe 220 includes two nipple assemblies 271 and 272 that form a pressure-tight seal with the flexible tube 290. A fiber optic cable 295 passes through the nipple assemblies 271, 272 and the flexible tube 290 inside the service pipe 220. One end of the fiber optic cable 295 connects to the network cable in telecom handhole 230. The other connects to equipment, not shown, in the building at the service riser 208.--

Please delete paragraph [0036] and replace with the following:

a3
-- [0036] Pressure fittings are then used to form a pressure-tight seal rated for certain maximum pressures somewhat greater than the expected operating pressure for the gas delivery system. For example, the tube is passed through the adapter nut 132 and gasket 134 and fitted onto the stiffener 138 of adapter body 136; and the adapter nut is tightened. The seal is rated for pressures of about 75 psig to about 100 psig.--

Please delete paragraph [0042] and replace with the following:

a4
-- [0042] In step 320, a first nipple is joined to the service pipe 220 at the building-side location. For example, at that location a small diameter hole is drilled into the service pipe and a matching diameter pipe is welded at about a 45-degree angle to cover the hole in the service pipe. The nipple is angled such that the horizontal component of a vector, which has its base at the tip of the nipple and its head at the joint with the outer surface of the service pipe, is directed to the targeted location of the second nipple. Step 320 includes the step of forming a pressure tight seal between the nipple and the service pipe. In some embodiments, step 320 is performed after step 340 or after both steps 340 and 342, as described below.--

Please delete paragraph [0056] and replace with the following:

as
-- [0056] In step 372, the flow of gas into the service pipe is restarted. For example, in the illustrated embodiment stop valve 205 is opened. This embodiment also includes pressurizing the service pipe and checking all fittings for leaks with soap film, including the couples 261, 262 and the nipple assemblies, 271, 272. After passing the test, this embodiment includes bonding the couples, priming and wrapping all connections. Some embodiments include reconnecting the service riser 208 if it was disconnected, removing a by-pass line or tank connected to provide temporary service, and checking gas equipment in the building to ensure all are operating properly and that the gas pressure is set in the correct range. In some embodiments, step 372 includes refilling any access holes dug, and otherwise cleaning up the work sites.--

Please delete paragraph [0060] and replace with the following:

ab
-- [0060] In step 420 a flexible tube is sealed in the service pipe. The tube is sealed in such a manner as to not leak for pressures up to a certain maximum pressure. For example, tube 290 is sealed in service pipe 220 with pressure fittings at nipple assemblies 271 and 272 so as not to leak gas at least up to a pressure of 100 psig, as described above for steps 310 through 350 of method 300.--

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The Non-Final Office Action of January 9, 2003 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

The Examiner objected to the specification due to typographical informalities; rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Potash (U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No.